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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/849,176	05/04/2001	Michael E. Gaddis	22013-05976	9666
22206	7590	02/17/2005	EXAMINER	
FELLERS SNIDER BLANKENSHIP BAILEY & TIPPENS THE KENNEDY BUILDING 321 SOUTH BOSTON SUITE 800 TULSA, OK 74103-3318			VU, VIET DUY	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2154		
DATE MAILED: 02/17/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/849,176	GADDIS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Viet Vu	2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/29/04.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Art Rejections:

1. The texts of 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 103(a) cited in the previous office action are hereby incorporated by reference.

2. The rejection of claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-18, 20-22 and 24-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Aziz, U.S. pat. no. 5,325,362, mailed 7/29/04, is hereby incorporated by reference.

3. The rejection of claims 3, 7, 19 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aziz, in view of Clark, U.S. pat. no. 6,442,588, mailed 7/29/04, is hereby incorporated by reference.

Response to Amendment:

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 10/29/04 with respect to claims 1-34 have been fully considered but they are not deemed persuasive.

Applicant alleges that Aziz fails to disclose the claimed invention because Aziz does not teach a first tunnel for connecting a first client to a backbone. Applicant states that

"Tunnel A" as shown in figure 8 is seen extending through the backbone.

This is not found persuasive. First, Aziz teaches that mobile border routers including MSBR 62 and MSBR 70 are part of the backbone 25 because they are used as contact points for connecting the backbone with other local networks (see col 5, line 65 - col 6, line 15). Thus, Aziz's "tunnel A" provides the claimed function of first tunnel for connecting a first client to a point, i.e., router MSBR 70, within the backbone. Second, there is no explicit limitation in the present claims to exclude the possibility having the first tunnel from running through part of the backbone. Therefore, in the absence of limitation to further define the first tunnel, it is submitted that Aziz's "tunnel A" meets limitations of the claimed first tunnel. Applicant is reminded that Aziz discloses the invention as claimed. The fact that it discloses additional limitation not claimed, i.e., part of "tunnel A" running on the backbone, is irrelevant.

Applicant also alleges that Aziz fails to teach a second tunnel for connecting a second client to the backbone because "Tunnel B" as shown in figure 8 is seen connecting the second client to MSBR 70 which is outside the backbone.

This is not found persuasive. Again, it is submitted that the router MSBR 70 is considered part of the backbone 25. Therefore, Aziz's "tunnel B" is seen meeting limitations of the claimed second tunnel for connecting the second client to a point, i.e., router MSBR 70, within the backbone.

Conclusion:

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Viet Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-3977. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee, can be reached on 571-272-3964.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system,

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see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



VIET D. VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit 2154
2/14/05